

## Message Text

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14-11  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

/041 W

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R 191740Z MAR 75  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 730  
SECDEF WASHDC  
INFO USNMR SHAPE  
USCINCEUR  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1533

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MARR, NATO  
SUBJECT: FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN NADGE

BEGIN SUMMARY. FRENCH NOTE OF 13 MARCH 1975 TO SYG LUNS COMPLAINS  
THEY HAVE NOT BEEN FULLY INFORMED OF NADGE PROGRAM PLANS SINCE FRENCH  
WITHDRAWAL FROM INTEGRATED ORGANIZATION. ESSENCE OF FRENCH POSITION  
IS QUOTE PARTICIPATION BY FRANCE IN ALL WORK ENVISAGED IN THIS FIELD  
CANNOT BE EFFICIENT OR SATISFACTORY UNLESS, UNDER THE SAME CONDITIONS  
AS OUR PARTNERS AND AT ALL LEVELS, WE ARE INFORMED OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

I.E., FROM THE CONCEPTION OF THE PLANS TO THEIR FINAL DEVELOPMENT AND,

IF SUCH BE THE CASE, TO THEIR APPLICATION UNQUOTE. BRIEF  
INFORMAL DISCUSSION (AT FOURTEEN) IN INFRA COMMITTEE 18 MARCH 1975  
REFLECTED GENERAL UNCERTAINTY AS TO PRECISE INTENT OF FRENCH NOTE.  
END SUMMARY.

1. FRENCH PERM REP, DE ROSE, HAS SENT FOLLOWING NOTE TO SYG LUNS  
ON FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN THE NADGE AIR DEFENSE GROUND  
ENVIRONMENT (NADGE), DATED 13 MARCH 75. MISSION TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:

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BEGIN TEXT:

THE DECLARATION OF THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FRANCE TO  
THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL ON 7 SEPTEMBER 1966 HAD INDICATED THE

FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE ITS PARTICIPATION IN NADGE.

SOME WAVERING HAS OCCURRED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS DECLARATION WHEN PROGRAMS WERE CARRIED OUT, NOT PLANNED PRIOR TO FRANCE'S WITHDRAWAL FROM THE INTEGRATED ORGANIZATION.

IN SOME CASES, FRANCE WAS INFORMED OF PROGRAMS BEING DEVELOPED, IN OTHERS, IT WAS NOT. IN SOME CASES, IT PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAMS, IN OTHERS, IT DID NOT.

CONSEQUENTLY, MY GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO NORMALIZE THE PROCEDURES PERMITTING US TO PARTICIPATE, UNDER THE SAME CONDITIONS AS OUR PARTNERS, IN THE PLANS AND WORK INTENDED TO ADAPT THE ELECTRONIC INFRASTRUCTURE OF AIR DEFENSE TO THE EVOLUTION OF STRATEGIC DATA AND SPECIFY, IN THE SPIRITS OF OUR 1966 DECLARATION, THE PROCEDURES FOR PROVIDING INFORMATION AND COOPERATION CORRESPONDING TO THE OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND INTERESTS OF ALL.

SO I HAVE RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO COMMUNICATE TO YOU, AS WELL AS TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, THE FOLLOWING:

"THE FRENCH DECLARATION IN 1966, RELATING TO NADGE, INDICATES CLEARLY THAT FRANCE, WHILE MAINTAINING ITS GENERAL POSITION TOWARD THE INTEGRATED MILITARY ORGANIZATION, IS INTERESTED IN ALL PLANS AND WORK RELATING TO ALERT AND AIR DETECTION IN THAT FIELD; IT IS INDEED IMPORTANT THAT PERMANENT EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BE MAINTAINED BETWEEN THE FRENCH AND ALLIED AIR DEFENSES.

IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT WE AGREED TO THE CREATION OF THE DIRECTORATE FOR AIR DEFENSE SYSTEMS WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT.

BUT PARTICIPATION BY FRANCE IN ALL WORK ENVISAGED IN THIS FIELD CANNOT BE EFFICIENT OR SATISFACTORY UNLESS, UNDER THE SAME CONDITIONS AS OUR PARTNERS AND AT ALL LEVELS, WE ARE INFORMED OF THE PROCEEDINGS, I.E.: FROM THE CONCEPTION OF THE PLANS TO THEIR FINAL DEVELOPMENT AND, IF SUCH BE THE CASE, TO THEIR APPLICATION. IT IS ONLY THUS THAT WE SHALL BE ABLE TO MAKE OUR COMMENTS KNOWN USEFULLY AND AT THE PROPER TIME. THIS IMPLIES THAT THE PROCESS OF DISCUSSION AND DECISION MUST TAKE PLACE AT ALL ECHELONS AMONG THE FIFTEEN AND ACCORDING TO THE USUAL RULES.

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THE SPIRIT OF SUCH A PROCEDURE WHICH HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT OVERLOOKED DURING THE PAST FEW YEARS, MAY BE INTERPRETED ON THE PRACTICAL LEVEL BY THE FOLLOWING:

1. PROVISION OF COMPLETE INFORMATION ON ALL PLANS ENVISAGED TO OUR MILITARY MISSIONS IN THE MILITARY COMMITTEE, AT SHAPE AND IN THE OTHER MAJOR ALLIED COMMANDS. NADEEC, THE DIRECTORATE FOR AIR DEFENSE SYSTEMS, AND THE OTHER COMPETENT ORGANIZATIONS WILL ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS INFORMATION.

2. FOR THIS PURPOSE, AND IN ALL THE ORGANISMS CONCERNED, EXAMINATION BY THE FIFTEEN OF MATTERS RELATING TO NADGE (POSSIBLE USE OF THE MEETING IN TWO PARTS - EXAMPLE: MILITARY COMMITTEE,

PART I). AGENDAS FOR THESE MEETINGS WOULD BE PROVIDED TO US  
IN ADVANCE.

3. APPROVAL OF THE PLANS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL FOR  
DECISION AND NOT TO THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE, IN WHICH WE  
DO NOT PARTICIPATE.

THE APPLICATION OF THESE FEW PRINCIPLES WILL PERMIT US TO  
BE INFORMED AND CONSULTED DULY."

I WOULD BE OBLIGED IF YOU WOULD INFORM THE MILITARY  
AUTHORITIES OF THE ALLIANCE CONCERNED OF THESE SUGGESTIONS.

I AM PROVIDING A COPY OF THIS LETTER TO ALL THE PERMANENT  
REPRESENTATIVES.

/S/ F. DE ROSE

END TEXT.

2. MISSION CONSIDERED IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE INFORMAL  
EXCHANGE OF VIEWS IN INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE 18 MARCH 75 AND  
SO ADVISED INFRASTRUCTURE CONTROLLER (SMITH) (US). AS IT TURNED  
OUT, FRENCH COMMITTEE REP (LT COL MOSSE) MADE ONE OF HIS RARE  
APPEARANCES TO JOIN DISCUSSION ON EXCHANGE RATES. HE DECLINED  
TO STAY FOR DISCUSSION OF DE ROSE LETTER, CLAIMING TO KNOW NO  
MORE ABOUT ITS SIGNIFICANCE THAN DID OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS,  
AND STATING THAT HE WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS.

3. US REP (LOVELAND) NEVERTHELESS RAISED POINT UNDER OTHER  
BUSINESS EXPRESSING VIEW THAT IT WAS SOMEWHAT UNCLEAR WHETHER  
FRENCH WERE SHOWING A BONA FIDE INTEREST IN FULL NADGE  
PARTICIPATION, OR JUST COMPLAINING ABOUT NOT HAVING BEEN KEPT FULLY  
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INFORMED. ENSUING DISCUSSION INDICATED THAT OTHER COMMITTEE  
REPS WERE EQUALLY UNCLEAR. THERE HAD BEEN TWO DIRECT FRENCH  
DELEGATION CONTACTS WITH ALLIES, DE ROSE WITH CANADIAN PERM REP  
MENZIES, AND LT COL MOSSE WITH NETHERLANDS INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE  
REP COOPS. IN BOTH CASES, IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE FRENCH DELEGATION  
KNOWS ONLY WHAT IS IN THE LETTER, SOME OF WHICH IS TEXT DIRECTLY  
FROM MOD PARIS, AND IS NOT ABLE OR AT LIBERTY TO INTERPRET  
THAT TEXT. COMMITTEE AGREED TO US SUGGESTION THAT FRENCH SHOULD  
BE INVITED TO NEXT SCREENING MEETING ON SLICE XXVI (WHICH  
CONTAINS SEVERAL NADGE RELATED PROJECTS) AND THAT RECORD SHOULD  
INDICATE WHETHER OR NOT THEY WERE PRESENT.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 18 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975NATO01533  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** NATO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750398/abbrziwc.tel  
**Line Count:** 155  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** n/a  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <28 APR 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <23 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN NADGE  
**TAGS:** MARR, NATO  
**To:** STATE  
SECDEF INFO USNMR SHAPE  
USCINCEUR  
PARIS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

